

# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE

#### MOTT HALL CHARTER SCHOOL

## February 26, 2013

The monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board" or "BoT") of the Mott Hall Charter School (the "MHCS"), was held at Mott Hall Charter School, Annex of 1260 Franklin Avenue between 168th and 169th Street, Bronx, NY 10459 on February 26, 2013, beginning at approximately 5:30 p.m. local time pursuant to notice duly given.

The following Trustees were present in person at the meeting: Patrick Awosogba, Brenda Bravo, Sarah Calderon, Xenia Cox, David Tinagero, Natalie Thompson, and Charles Stern.

The following Trustees were present via phone: Peter Oroszlany.

The following school staff members participated in person: **Bob Lesser, Executive Director of MHCS and Geovanti Steward – Principal of MHCS.** 

Francesca Wiendling was absent from the meeting.

No parent(s) attended this meeting.

Sarah Calderon presided at this meeting and Natalie Thompson recorded the minutes as secretary.

After noting that a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order. Ms. Calderon reviewed the agenda.

# Acknowledgement of the Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2012, meeting minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved by the BoT.

## **Executive Director Updates**

A. Board Packet Review - Mr. Lesser reviewed the contents of the Board Packet. Packets were available prior to Board meetings. Mr. Lesser highlighted that the end of the second marking period and initial feedback from teachers is that many students showed improvement. The first Winter Academy was launched during mid-winter recess with thirty-six students participating. Four instructors, two ELA and two Mathematics provided instruction largely driven by instructional tools matched to homogeneous groups of students.



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B. Mr. Lesser also provided updates Operations, specifically the New Building – the developer is still working to through his financing strategy however has been unable to secure New Tax Credits, which is integral to the financing process.

Ms. Cox and Mr. Lesser will continue to monitor the New Building development and begin to work on contingency plans.

Social and Emotional Health Youth Development Programs began in January and are all progressing positively.

- MHCS Mentoring program is underway with 13 students participating. Mentee and mentors have established a positive rapport.
- Counseling is an integral part of the school day with students participating in individual and group counseling per the IEP mandate.
- Life Skills Group has started for every student. Sessions are facilitated by the Director of Social Work, the Social Work Intern and an outside facilitator.

State Education Department walkthrough will be held on Thursday February 28th.

Parent/Teacher conferences were held in sync with report card distribution. Nutrition, Health and Fitness workshops were also held for parents and students. MHCS will host the first installment of the "Speaker Series" with US Ambassador to Uruguay, Julissa Reynoso on December 21, 2012.

#### **Other Business**

The BoT proposed the establishment of the Academics Task Force to focus on and to have input to the instructional/educational program of MHCS.

#### Forward Agenda

1. Board Packet Review



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2. Committee and Task Force Updates

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Natalie Thompson** 

Secretary

APPROVED:

Sarah Calderon

Chair